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MAPLE AT THE SIGN OF THE

THE JUNE BRIDES.

FTER a dull and rainy May, the June brides with their blushes and bouquets are a welcome sight. Cut-glass and silverware are bought on every hand, the financial stringency is forgotten and the white-ribboned whip is waved jauntily by the early who drives the handy bridge. the cabby who drives the happy bridal party. But it is emphatically an oc-casion for feminine airs and graces and man is shrivelled into an insignificance which is enough to rejoice the heart of the most savage suf-fragette. The gowns of bride, bridesmaid, flower-girl and even the sober costume of the bride's mother leave room for nothing but the bride-groom's name as "among those present."



The Queen of Italy and the Princess Giovanna. -The Sphere

* * * A NOVELIST'S LUXURY.

GABRIEL D'ANNUNZIO, a wellknown Italian novelist of the day, who indulges occasionally in writing a drama, is said to be prouder of his wardrobe than of his literary achievements. He rejoices in the finest raiment and is always supplied with the latest novelty of fashion. He is especially proud of his stock of violet silk umbrellas of which he possesses eight. His street gloves are said to number four dozen pairs and are of the finest cut and material. He is a resplendent figure when he takes his walks abroad, attired in trousers of delicate mauve tint, a waistcoat of pale rose, pearl-gray coat and hat of a tender green. The sum spent on this magnificent wardrobe is, of course, quite equal to that which feminine leaders of fashion consider it necessary to lavish on their costly gowns. D'Annunzio is certainly a hero to his valet and the idol of his tailor. One of the novelist's cheerful notions is the design of his own coffin and mausoleum, which are said to be exceedingly elaborate. Fate would be playing a scurvy trick if it were to allow this exquisite man of letters and patterns to be drowned in mid-Atlantic with no one at hand to give him gorgeous and picturesque burial.

SENSATIONAL PARAGRAPHS.

A CORRESPONDENT enquires: "Don't you think it is undesirable to have so much written about

murders on the front page of the papers?" This matter has been d scussed frequently and usually fruitlessly. Editors have asserted that wo-men are more to be blamed than men in the matter of reading sensational details of a murder case. Personally I have no fondness for such affairs unless they occur in the pages of Sir A. Conan Doyle, whose murders are certainly worth while. In the ordinary newspaper, however, such occurrences become cheap and vulgarly hideous.

Speaking of sensational news, one reads with the strongest indignation the career of that mean scoundrel named Anderson who deserted wife and family three years ago and culminated his crimes by marrying a young girl to whom the revelation of his villainy must mean a tragedy infinite-ly worse than death. Compared with this Anderson creature, the average murderer seems a clean and respectable citizen. It is difficult to imagine any punishment which would fit the crime but one hopes that the authorities realise that no ordinary sentence would be the proper infliction on such an offender.

THE WAITING-ROOM.

A WRITER who describes with considerable humour the scramble in the ladies' waiting-room of the Grand Central station, New York, comments on feminine stinginess in the matter of tips and describes the vagaries of a richly-dressed woman who demanded considerable service of the maid in attendance and finally offered her two cents by way of payment. This sort of selfishness is too much in evidence among women travelling. It is usually the woman who demands most in the form of at-tendance who doles out the most wretched compensation. One might think it the practice of economy if the same woman were not seen buying magazines by the half-dozen, bonbons by the two pounds and lavishing caresses on a costly poodle. The unselfish traveller is a rare experience in the "ladies' waiting-room."

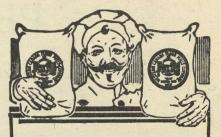
* * * THE UNCHEERFUL HENRIK.

TORONTO has been accused many a time of not liking Ibsen and I fear the charge is just. But if Toronto is not fond of the Norwegian dramatist, it is surely better for that Philistine city to be sincere and admit the dislike or indifference than to pre-

tend to appreciation.

I shall not soon forget my experience of *Rosmersholm* with Miss O'Neil as the disagreeable heroine. I Went because I thought it was the improperly proper thing to do and was prepared for all manner of dismalness; but the audience (bless its uncultured heart!) made a shocking mistake and took the production for a comedy, actually chuckling when the lady went off to drown herself. It was one of the most cheery mis-It was one of the most cheery misunderstandings which I have witnessed and, after the first thrill of sympathy with the unhappy Miss O'Neil, I gave myself up to the spirit of the occasion and giggled when the suicide number was announced on the programme. It may be peculiar taste, but I should rather read Jean Blewett's spring songs than witness Ibsen's assorted suicides Ibsen's assorted suicides.

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